Governing Board Members Receive Plaques At Their Third Meeting

1986-1988 SPAFA Governing Board Members. Clockwise from top left: Taveesak Senanarong (Thailand), Esperanza Bunag Gatbonton (Philippines), Lee Wai Kok (Singapore), Adi Haji Taha (Malaysia), and Dr R.P. Soejono (Indonesia). As a token of appreciation for services rendered, Prof MC Subhadradis Diskul, SPAFA Centre Director, presented plaques to the board members during the Third SPAFA Regional Centre Governing Board Meeting held on 29-31 August 1988 at the Suriwongse Hotel of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The Centre Director thanked Prof Dr R.P. Soejono of Indonesia, Adi Haji Taha of Malaysia, Esperanza Bunag Gatbonton of the Philippines, Lee Wai Kok of Singapore, and Taveesak Senanarong of Thailand, for their valuable support and dedicated services for the development of culture in Southeast Asia as SPAFA Governing Board Members from 1986-1988.

Ng Yew Kang, the new SPAFA Governing Board Member for Singapore replacing Lee Wai Kok who has retired from the civil service, was introduced and welcomed by the Centre Director at the start of the meeting. In response, the new board member expressed pleasure in the appointment and hoped to work with the Regional Centre for the advancement of archaeology and fine arts in the Southeast Asian region.

As the meeting progressed, several aspects of the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre were presented by the Centre Director to the board members for information, discussion and decision-making. Among the many other items tackled were the SPAFA Centre Director's annual report for FY 1987/1988 and his fund raising efforts. SPAFA's statement of accounts and financial audit report for the recent fiscal year, proposed annual plan of operation for FY 1988/1990, proposed budgets for the next three years and staff matters concerning the Regional Centre. Other miscellaneous items such as Maritime Salvage Operations in the Waters of Malaysia, Regional Indonesia and the Philippines were

also dealt with during the three-day long meeting.

After in-depth discussions and careful deliberations, several resolutions were made. These included the following:

• The Board directed the Centre Director to write the Governing Board Members to invite suggestions on possible actions to be taken for the redefinition of the role of the SPAFA Regional Centre in the Southeast Asian region.

• The Board reappointed Messrs SGV-Na Thalang Co., Ltd. as SPAFA external auditors for FY 1988/1989.

• The Board approved the proposed Three-Year Budgets for the Capital and Operating funds and for the Special Funds.

• The Board approved the proposed Annual Plan of Operation for FY 1989/1990 as amended.

• The Governing Board agreed that there is a problem and that SPAFA can help in the promotion of awareness in the problems of Maritime Salvage Operations. This could be done through the SPAFA Digest and the Governing Board Member for the Philippines has agreed to collate information from Member Countries and write on the issue.

• The Governing Board Members agreed to assist the Publications officer in soliciting articles for the SPAFA Digest by providing a list of possible contributors to be contacted and, as much as possible, help in making the initial approaches to the same. At the same time, the Publications Officer will regularly inform them of the themes planned for the forthcoming issues of the digest. But the Philippine Board Member requested that an official letter regarding the matter be sent to the Members of the Governing Board in order that they may act on the problem with authority.

In his closing remarks, Taveesak Senanarong, Chairman of the Government Board, thanked all the participants and observers. He complimented everyone for the efficient and successful conduct of the meeting. On that note he declared the Third SPAFA Regional Centre Governing Board Meeting closed.

Aside from the Governing Board Members, the meeting was attended by the Ex-officio Members, representatives of the Government of France and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC), other supporting participants, observers, and the SPAFA Secretariat.

Left: Ng Yew Kang, the new SPAFA Governing Board Member for Singapore, replacing Lee Wai Kok who has retired from the civil service.



Below: Participants of the Third SPAFA Regional Centre Governing Board Meeting held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on 29-31 August 1988.



HERE AND THERE



SPAFA THANKS JAPAN

The SPAFA Regional Centre thanked the Government of Japan for contributions given through the then Bangkok Ambassador, H.E. Mr Akitane Kiuchi, in a simple ceremony held at Darakarn Building, Bangkok, on June 23, 1988.

His Excellency (centre) shows the painting presented by the Centre as a token of gratitude as Prof MC Subhadradis Diskul, SPAFA Centre Director (left), and Prof Ida Bagus Oka, then SEAMES Director, look on.



GOOD-BYE DIRECTOR

The staff members of SEAMES and SPAFA bade farewell to outgoing SEAMES Director Prof Dr Ida Bagus Oka and family at a dinner aboard one of Bangkok's floating restaurants along the Chao Phya River.

The former SEAMES Director and Mrs Oka (seated second and third from left) are flanked by their children while standing behind are SPAFA staff members.



DISCOVERING CHIANG MAI

Participants of the recently held SPAFA Governing Board Meeting took time off to visit some of the historical sites of Chiang Mai, Thailand, during their meeting.

Leading the group was Prof MC Subhadradis Diskul (centre) who also acted as their guide.



TÊTE-À-TÊTE WITH FATHER CASAL

The timely arrival of the high-level cultural administrators in Bangkok, Thailand, in July provided the opportunity for the Training Course for the Promotion and Dissemination of Information on Southeast Asian Cultural Traditions to push through in November 1988, in the Philippines.

Photo shows Prof Bertoldo J. Manta, SPAFA's Senior Specialist in Visual Arts (right) and Father Gabriel Casal, Director of the Philippine National Museum and Chairman of the SPAFA National Steering Committee in the Philippines, at the reception held for the participants of the Training Course for High-Level Cultural Administrators.